FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Voice of the Masses radio broadcast reports of further missile and air attacks on Iranian cities 14 January. Surface-to-surface missiles struck Bakhtaran, Borujerd, Masjed-e Soleyman, and Dezful, while warplanes raided Qom, Ilam, Gilan-e Gharb, Dezful, and Esfahan. "Scores" of planes participated in the first of two raids on Qom, while 16 aircraft were involved in the attack on Ilam.

IRNA announced that 25 civilians were killed and 100 wounded by Iraq's attack on Qom, citing a military spokesman's view that the raid show's Iraq's lack of respect for the sanctity of holy cities. IRNA said this was the first time Qom had been bombed since the start of the war, though Iraq has previously announced raids on the city. As for the Iraqi missile attacks, IRNA reported that 30 civilians were killed and 130 wounded by the strikes on Masjed-e Soleyman and Dezful. An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses stated that 6 Iraqi civilians were killed and 21 wounded in Iranian artillery and air attacks.

At the battlefronts, Iranian forces defeated counterattacks by Iraq's II Army Corps north of Sumar, according to IRNA, while new Iraqi units were "systematically annihilated" west of Shalamcheh. The agency's tally of Iraqi losses in Karbala 5 rose to 20,000 casualties and 40 aircraft downed, and it also reported that "scores" of Iraqi officers were killed in a 15 January Iranian missile attack on a command post belonging to Iraq's III Corps. Iran suffered casualties from Iraqi chemical weapons, IRNA said, but its troops continued to press toward Basra west of the 9 km long Fish Lake.

In contrast, Iraqi statements cited by INA maintained that Iraqi forces advanced southeast of Fish Lake and that Iraq's II Corps crushed another Iranian attack in the central sector 14-15 January. Iraqi planes raided Hawk missile batteries behind Iranian lines 14 and 15 January, according to statements carried by Voice of the Masses, and an Iranian plane was downed over the southern front.

Regarding Iranian-Soviet differences over the war, IRNA disclosed that the Iranian ambassador to Moscow met with the Soviet foreign minister 14 January to protest a recent statement made by the Soviet UN representative. Eduard Shevardnadze reportedly replied that the Soviet position had been "distorted by imperialist media" and reaffirmed his country's neutrality in the war. He also stressed the USSR's desire to expand relations with Iran and invited the Iranian foreign minister to visit Moscow soon, IRNA added.

Afghanistan

PDPA General Secretary Najibullah officially confirmed the beginning of a cease-fire from midnight 15 January to 16 July, BAKHTAR reported. Najibullah proposed that an extraordinary supreme commission and local commissions for national reconciliation representing "both sides on an equal basis" be created. He advocated mutually beneficial talks "at all levels" that would result in "an agreement on complete peace and without any time limit on Afghan soil by both sides."

GUNT Delegation in Algeria

President of the new Chadian GUNT Acheikh ibn Oumar and an accompanying delegation arrived in Algeria 13 January to hold talks on the recent developments inside Chad, Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

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BAKHTAR Cites Najibullah Speech on Cease-Fire

LD150732 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, January 14, BAKHTAR: Najib, General Secretary of the PDPA CC made an address to all the citizens of independent and free Afghanistan today, based on the message of the Central Committee of the PDPA, Revolutionary Council, and the Council of Ministers of the DRA, National Fatherland Front, the Council of Scholars, and clergymen and the society of mothers of the martyrs of revolution.

In accordance with the policy of national reconciliation set forth officially, openly, and honestly, by the PDPA and the state of the [word indistinct] let us put an end to bloodshed. When weapon is used no place remains for wisdom, Najib said. We officially declare the enforcement of ceasefire and will make every effort for achieving peace. We will safeguard the religious and historical tradition of our fore-fathers.

We profoundly respect the national and religious sentiments and will be welcoming all those who attach importance to the destiny of the people and the future of the country, he added.

We explicitly declare that all organs of the DRA have received instructions to stop firing of all types of weapons and the military operation in all respects, including in the space, effective from 12 o'clock local time tonight, January 14/15, general secretary of the PDPA CC said.

The units of the Armed Forces of the DRA, will return to their permanent headquarters and barracks at 12 o'clock local time in the night of 14/15 January, 1987. Orders will be issued to the Armed Forces of the DRA to protect the borders of the DRA, state and military institutions, and to provide adequate security for the state transport vehicles which carry essential goods and commodities for the peace loving Afghanistan.

The other side should follow the DRA in regard to military operations in all areas from the specified time including stopping of attacks on airplanes. They should stop transportation and deployment of all kinds of arms and ammunition inside the territory of the DRA. From the time fixed, roads must not be mined. All terroristic and subversive activities must be stopped in the territory of the DRA.

We are ready to observe ceasefire till 12 o'clock midnight of 16 July 1987. We invite the other side also to do so. The invitation for a ceasefire cannot be considered as a sign of weakness of the DRA. Our aim is only to end bloodshed in the DRA, general secretary of the PDPA CC emphasized.

Without stopping of [word indistinct], we would not be able [words indistinct] each other. We wish that the true Muslims should negotiate in an atmosphere of peace, Najib said. We are intended to find the ways of our reunion. This gesture reflects our belief in Islam and our love for our country and our people.

For the creation of the extraordinary supreme commission and local commissions for national reconciliation, a ceasefire was a must. These commissions should include the representatives of both sides on equal basis.

The objectives of the commission (?are):

A-Creation of essential conditions for peaceful and constructive negotiations between the people's sovereignty and those who are temporarily outside the borders of the DRA;

B-Charting out of conditions for a lasting peace in our [word indistinct];

C-Preparation and convening of peace jirgahs (assemblies);

D-Supervision of the proper implementation of national reconciliation;

E-Adoption of counter measures in the event of violation of the provisions of reconciliation.

We propose that mutually beneficial talks be held at all levels. We are prepared for it and we guarantee full security for all those who hold talks with us, Najib stressed. In our opinion the result will be the signing of an agreement on complete peace and without any time limit on the Afghan soil by both sides. The agreement should be approved at extra-ordinary jirgah which will be held on this subject.

Meanwhile, we officially declare: After the establishment of national reconciliation, the local and state power will be established by guaranteeing the participation of the representatives of both sides. All those who have left their homeland as a result of deception, threat, and surveillance will be allowed to return to their homeland without any hindrance.

The following guarantees will be given to the state's political and military opponents who are actively fighting against the people, provided that they make their firm decisions during the period of reconciliation for the termination of their fighting:

-General amnesty regardless of the severity of their offence and intensity of their punishment;

-Those who are pardoned will be enjoying all the rights and privileges of the citizens of the DRA and can be elected to any position, including the high positions of the state.

If the pardoned people come out once again against the people's sovereignty, they will be tried by the revolutionary tribunal as an avowed criminal and traitor to the country and should be sentenced to severe punishment.

After the restoration of lasting peace on the Afghan soil and in case of the non-resumption of intervention from abroad we will be escorting with heartfelt thanks and traditional affection the Soviet internationalist soldiers to their homeland because the pressing need for their selfless and noble assistance will be ceased, said Najib.

We address to those Afghans, who have turned to political and military opponents of the people's sovereignty and taken arms against their people, it is not yet too late for you to come home. The general amnesty is at your disposal, your past deeds will be forgotten.

In his address, Najib appealed to the peoples and states of the world, international, Islamic, and social organizations to help the Afghan people to stop bloodshed and the fratricidal war. The noble people of Afghanistan will keep in their memories your

backing and support forever, general secretary of the PDPA concluded.

Mujahidin Ignore Ceasefire, Ambush Convoy
BK151309 Hong Kong AFP in English 1234 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 15 (AFP) — Hours after a unilateral government ceasefire went into effect in Afghanistan, Moslem guerrillas attacked an army convoy, killing three soldiers, resistance sources said Thursday. They said fighting has not been called off and Islamic mujahidin fighters had rejected the truce which Mr Najibullah, the head of the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul, announced from midnight Wednesday.

Moslem rebels fired several rockets on a military convoy heading from the Afghan garrison town of Jal early Thursday, rebel sources said; one army truck was destroyed and three Afghan soldiers were reported killed in the ambush. The attack was mounted ten kilometres (six miles) from the border with Pakistan, the sources said.

Sources in Peshawar suspected the convoy was coming either to offer escort to a delegation of the pro-Moscow Awami National Party led by Abdul Wali Khan, which was to leave for Kabul today, or to reinforce troops on the borders. Afghan officials have invited several like-minded party leaders from abroad to participate in a National Fatherland Front meeting. The communist-style umbrella organisation comprising peasants, workers, students, and leaders went into session in Kabul Wednesday.

BBC Interviews Rebel Leader on Cease-Fire
BK141239 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 14 Jan 87

[From "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] One of the leaders of the Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul has explained his reasons for rejecting the government's recent offer of a cease-fire and talks leading to national reconciliation. The guerrilla leader, who is based in Peshawar in Pakistan, was speaking in an interview with the BBC. From there, here is our correspondent George Arnie:

[Begin Arnie recording] Gulbaddin Hikmatyar is one of the most important leaders of the alliance of seven Afghan guerrilla parties based in Pakistan. His party — the Hezb-e Eslami — started its armed struggle for an Islamic state several years before the communist takeover and the Soviet invasion. It is thought by many to be the most effective guerrilla fighting force.

Talking to the BBC in Peshawar, Engineer Hikmatyar described Kabul's recent peace initiative as preposterous and empty. The offer of a cease-fire, he said, has been made many times before and rejected each time. It was the Soviets who started the war, and there was no question of the guerrillas laying down their weapons until they have left.

As for joining a coalition government with the ruling communist party, he said it would amount to a shameful surrender to the enemy. Instead of trying to complicate a real solution by deceptive words, Moscow should undertake a prompt and unconditional withdrawal of its troops. The seven guerrilla parties would then form a provisional interim government which would arrange for general elections. There was no need for any United Nations peace-keeping force.

Engineer Hikmatyar said that those Afghan Communists who repented of what he called their past misdeeds would be pardoned. The guerrillas would also guarantee safe passage to the Soviet forces while they withdrew. However, Moscow would have to offer to talk directly to the guerrillas about the withdrawal. [ends recording]

Junejo Meets Visiting PRC Deputy Staff Chief

BK141558 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Visiting Deputy Chief of General Staff of China's People's Liberation Army General Xu Huizi called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi this evening and discussed matters of mutual interest with him. Vice Chief of Army Staff General Khalid Mamud Arief and the Chinese ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion.

Soviet Envoy in Pakistan Hails Afghan Cease-Fire

OW150501 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 15, KYODO — Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan A.K. Vezirov called the unilateral ceasefire coming into effect Thursday and the reconciliation efforts undertaken by the Afghan Communist Party leader Najibullah the best basis for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghan issue.

The ambassador told reporters Wednesday that in Soviet view the offer by Najibullah was "the best thing" for achieving a political settlement in Afghanistan. Vezirov was responding to a question on a demand made by the Afghan rebels known as mujahidin that direct talks be held between Afghan resistance forces and the Soviet Union for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. He was addressing a press conference held here on the eve of the unilateral ceasefire in Afghanistan declared by the government forces. The conference was held to explain various Soviet initiatives undertaken in 1986 in connection with the International Year of Peace.

The ambassador said that Soviet Union was sincere in withdrawing forces from Afghanistan and declared that "not a single Soviet soldier" would stay in Afghanistan a single day beyond the timetable that might be agreed at the indirect Geneva talks resuming next month. Asked about the time that the Soviet forces would logistically take to withdraw from Afghanistan, Vezirov said any time frame would be acceptable to Moscow if that is agreeable to the Afghan Government. He also said Moscow stood for Iranian participation in the Geneva talks and believed that this would also be in Iran's own national interest. Iran is seeking representation of the Afghan mujahidin at the Geneva talks, and an agreement reached between Pakistan and Afghanistan on political settlement cannot be complete without Iranian participation. Vezirov, turning to bilateral relations between Pakistan and Soviet Union, said Moscow has made a number of suggestions to forge closer ties. One suggestion is to charter tourist flights between Pakistan and the Central Soviet Asian Republics, Bukhara and Tashkent, which have a rich Islamic cultural heritage, he said.

Press Note Issued on 14 Jan Karachi Violence

BK141720 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The local administration in Karachi has issued a pressnote tonight which says miscreants obstructed traffic, threw stones, and indulged in hooliganism after an attack by a crowd on the Faisalabad Colony police station and police firing on it and an accident involving a minibus last night. That is why curfew was imposed on Landhi, Faisalabad Colony, and Korangi police station areas early this morning.

No incident was reported from the areas under curfew. However, the miscreants set on fire three rickshaws in Lasbela Chowk and the Gulbahar area. A crowd also attacked a police picket in Liaqatabad where police resorted to firing resulting in the death of one person.

Curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 0900 and then again from 1500 to 1730 tomorrow in New Karachi, Korangi, Landhi, and Faisalabad police station areas. Law enforcement agencies are patrolling these areas.

Junejo Gives Law, Order Assurances

BK141335 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has assured the National Assembly that law and order in Karachi and Hyderabad will be restored soon and the life, property, and honor of the people will be fully protected. He said a judicial inquiry into the recent incidents has been ordered. He was intervening in a 2-hour debate arising out of the adjournment motion moved by Haji Mohammad Saifullah Khan on the latest incidents in Karachi and Hyderabad. The motion was adopted by the House.

The situation, the prime minister said, is no doubt serious but the government will not allow anyone to take the law into his hand. All antisocial and criminal activities will be curbed with iron hand. He has specially directed the Sind chief minister to take stringent measures to bring the situation back to normal and assured the provincial government of all necessary help in this regard.

The prime minister said if necessary he would not hesitate to take necessary steps as provided in the Constitution in regard to the provincial government.

The members were of the view that the happenings in Karachi were a pointer to a conspiracy to weaken the country. Most of the members suggested the formation of a parliamentary committee to unearth the conspiracy and suggest remedy. They said the national integrity and country's solidarity would be given priority over all consideration. Beside the mover, 14 members took part in the discussion.

Sind Chief Minister Comments

BK141554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Sind Chief Minister Syed Ghaush Ali Shah told a news conference in Karachi today that the government is determined to maintain law and order and ensure full protection to the life, property, honor, and respect of the people. He said that the government is fully aware of the situation and various admin-

istrative changes had already been made earlier to bring it under control. He added that further changes would be made. He said 22.5 million rupees have been approved for the relief and rehabilitation of the affected people in Karachi.

The chief minister appealed to the people to cooperate with the government to meet the situation and identify those disturbing law and order in the city. He said that antinational elements have joined hands with those who do not want to see the growth of democracy in the country.

The chief minister said that action against narcotics traffickers will continue until they are completely eliminated. Action has also been taken to unearth illegal weapons and its results will soon be seen.

The district administration of Hyderabad has announced that curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 0900 tomorrow in Hyderabad and Latifabad. The announcement said the situation was normal today and no untoward incident has been reported from any part of Hyderabad City and Latifabad.

SRI LANKA

Jaffna Security Forces Face Renewed Attacks

BK131226 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The security forces fought off renewed terrorist attacks on the telecommunications and chest clinic buildings in Jaffna yesterday. All the mortars fired by the terrorists are reported to have fallen short of the two buildings.

'General Kittu' Says LTTE Secretariat Abandoned

BK101039 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in Enlgish 1003 GMT 10 Jan 87

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 10 (LANKA PUWATH) — The threatened unilateral declaration of independence (UDI) of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] or its secretariat which they claim was going to take over the administration of the Jaffna peninsula has not happened. Their efforts have failed once again, Jaffna sources told LANKA PUWATH. The sources also said that the LTTE proposal to set up an anti-Sri Lankan government propaganda organisation at New Delhi, under the leadership of Lak shmi Naganathan, a former Sri Lankan diplomat, is also non-existent.

Meanwhile, the LTTE has forcibly taken over a Tamil newspaper in Jaffna, named *Eelam Erasu* as it had carried a series of attacks on the LTTE.

Krishnakumar alias Kittu who has now styled himself as 'General Kittu' has admitted to newsmen in Jaffna that the attempt to set up a secretariat on January 1, 1987, had been abandoned due to the fuel ban. He is reported to have said that there was no point in having an institution that was merely symbolic and not operative. He had admitted that the LTTE could not operate an administrative secretariat. He has also said that the LTTE has abandoned the idea of having a traffic police as there was no traffic due to the fact there was no fuel.

The LTTE also had not registered any motor vehicles due to the current situation and also a large number of car owners had sent in non-user claims to the government secretariat in Jaffna which is adminstering a very large area of the peninsula.

Kittu has also told newsmen that there were a large number of Tamils who where of the view that the Sri Lanka Government was keen on peace and ready for a settlement. He has also admitted that there were a number of Tamils who were of the view that the LTTE was totally opposed to peace.

With regard to hoarding and black marketeering their [as received] prices of fuel, fish, vegetables etc. have soared in the Jaffna town, the self-styled 'general' had said that such things were inevitable in a war time situation. A Jaffna resident quipped that Kittu was talking as if he was a general during the battle of Britain.

Tamil Nadu People Turn Against Tamil Separatists

BK110919 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0824 GMT 11 Jan 87

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 11 (LANKA PUWATH) — Indian newsmen who interviewed a cross-section of persons in the 55 million populated Indian state of Tamil Nadu told LANKA PUWATH today that the tide has turned against the Tamil separatists in Sri Lanka. Originally Tamil Nadu people supported the Sri Lankan terrorists but today it has turned to hate.

According to the newsmen the usually peace-loving people are tired of Sri Lankan separatists and want them to leave the country. No more are they allowed to carry side-arms as did Al-Capone the doyen of Mafia chiefs.

Today according to the newsmen, who made detail tours of Tamil Nadu, the government of Tamil Nadu was being pressed into action against Sri Lankan Tamil terrorists, including Velupillai Prabhakaran, the fishermen smuggler from Velvetturavi turned master-gangster. The newsmen said the Tamil Nadu government had clamped down in the carrying of arms by the Sri Lankan terrorists. The areas covered by the clamp-down included the urban populations of Madura, Madras, Coimbatore, etc.

Meanwhile, the Indian authorities have heightened vigilence on the southern Indian coast particularly the terrorist bases of Vedarayanam and Rameswaram. This has resulted in a significant slow-down of arms, ammunition, and materiel from south India to the north of Sri Lanka across the Palk Strait.

Meanwhile, official sources told LANKA PUWATH that sea patrolling in northern Sri Lanka had resulted in the terrorists experiencing great difficulty in the smuggling of arms, men, and materiel into the norther peninsula. Latest official security reports stated that the Sri Lankan Government was well in control of the situation in both the Jaffna peninsula and the Eastern Province and they were relatively quiet.

Official sources said the government thought taking effective measures with regard to fuel was a humanitarian one and would continue to maintain essential supplies such as food. The superintendents of hospitals in Jaffna said there were sufficient supplies of oxygen and drugs in Jaffna.

The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has assured all base hospitals in the area that enough fuel will be provided from the Killinochchi depot for any contingency. Further, drugs and oxygen were transported from Vavunity by the hospital authorities. Any emergency cases will be promptly flown to the major hospitals in Colombo.

Rebel Radio Condemns Voice of Tamil Eelam

BK130400 (Clandestine) Voice of The Tigers in Tamil 1330 GMT 10 Jan 87

[News commentary; broadcast on 7010 khz, the frequency used by Voice of Tamil Eelam]

[Text] This is the Voice of the Tigers, the special broadcast of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in Tamil. A special announcement about the [word indistinct] broadcast called the Voice of Tamil Eelam, which is being broadcast on the shortwave 41 meter band — 7010 khz frequency.

The Tamil Eelam national liberation struggle has made progress by successfully facing innumerable suppressions and suffering untold miseries. Tamil Eelam, which has its foundation on the corpses of more than 300 martyrs, has been revitalized by the sculptors known as the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. On the path of history the Sri Lankan racist government has taken numerous steps to eliminate LTTE movement and the Tamil Eelam freedom struggle which is its essence of life. The Sri Lankan Government has tortured and killed many innocent people under the wrong impression that the people would oppose the freedom fighters and betray them for fear of their lives. It has been miserably disappointed. These events have only strengthened the will of the people. The Sri Lankan Government has announced rewards for those who betray the freedom fighters, but the peopel of Tamil Eelam, instead of betraying the LTTE, have the helped the LTTE to identify the black sheep. Finally it has created situations to (?bring about splits) between the LTTE and other liberation movements. When that also failed it airdropped leaflets containing very mean anti-Prabhakaran propaganda with a view to separate the people of Tamil Eelam from LTTE.

When this slanderous campaign, which was carried out for about 5 months, proved futile, the Sri Lankan racist government resorted to a new approach by launching broadcasts by the Voice of Tamil Eelam [words indistinct] on 41 meters in the shortwave band every day at 1000 and 1900.

The Sri Lankan Government, which has renegades and opportunist forces in the garb of the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam on its side, has been extending full support to the Voice of Tamil Eelam broadcasts. We have recovered many parts of our motherland (?in the north) and are keeping them in our control. We are spread from (Paruthipurai) up to Amparai. [sentence indistinct]. On the international level we have made our struggle clear. Therefore, the Sri Lankan Government is launching the broadcast called the Voice of Tamil Eelam with the main aim of crushing the Tamil Eelam freedom struggle by annihilating us. All our freedom fighters are faithful to their organizations, have [words indistinct] high morale, and are well disciplined. They have been brought up in that way. They enjoy the full affection and patronage of the Tamil people of Tamil Eelam. So, a group of stooges who do not have guts to stand up before the people have been broadcasting various silly and false information through their radio called the Voice of Tamil Eelam about our organization and its members with the aim of bringing disrepute to the LTTE and its members. Their information is totally false. The Voice of Tamil Eelam initially eulogized us for a few days to misguide the people and has been carrying out its conspiracy ever since. These broadcasts have been made to give a false picture about us among the people, to isolate us from the people's support, and to split the members of our organization through low grade commentaries by raising racial, religious, and regional differences.

It is impossible for the Voice of Tamil Eelam to cut off the people's support for us and split our organization. It is absolutely impossible to take away the support of the people from us. We consider the freedom of the people as our life. Therefore, we request the beloved people of our Tamil Eelam not to believe the reports praising us nor to give credit to the silly information about us in the Voice of Tamil Eelam broadcasts launched by the stooges of the Sri Lankan Government, the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam.

Let us act according to the saying: There may be so many ups and downs on your way that may make you stumble and fall, brave all these and march ahead and be mindful of your duties fearlessly.

Beloved ones, you have been constantly asking questions about the Voice of Tamil Eelam and we believe that your doubts would have been cleared now.

CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Continues Visit

Talks With Agriculture Minister

LD141510 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — Visiting Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban called for expansion of Tehran-Prague industrial and agricultural cooperation in a meeting with Iranian Minister of Agriculture 'Abbas-'Ali Zali here Wednesday.

The Czech foreign trade minister proposed that Czechoslovakia import Iranian agricultural products and export agricultural machinery to Iran. He also suggested that the two countries experts cooperate in the field of irrigation and agriculture.

In response, Zali said despite the fact that about one million hectares of cultivable Iranian land is under Iraqi artillery fire, Iran has attained positive results in the field of agriculture because of its fertile soil and variable climate. The agricultural minister also announced Iran's readiness to export agricultural products such as grapes, apples, citrus fruits, dried fruits, and caviar to Czechoslovakia and import agricultural machinery. He also said that Iran is willing to use Czechoslovakia's experiences in developing and modernizing the cultivation of sugar beets, corn, and potatoes.

Discusses Purchase of Oil

LD142208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] A Central News Unit report says that at a meeting on Wednesday afternoon between the Czechoslovak foreign trade minister and the Iranian oil minister, discussions were held on the purchase of oil from the Islamic Republic and also technical cooperation with regard to the gas and petrochemical industries.

According to this rpeort, Czechoslovakia is prepared to purchase up to 1 million metric tons of crude oil annually from the Islamic Republic of Iran while moving toward increasing the volume of its trade exchanges with Iran. In this meeting the Czechoslovak foreign trade minister told our country's oil minister that the CSSR is prepared to cooperate with regard to Iranian natural gas reaching the European consumer market.

Khomeyni Congratulated on 'Recent Victories'

LD141828 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — Deputy of Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahmoud Mohammadi Araqi congratulated the imam on recent victories of the Muslim combatants of Iran in a message from Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters on Wednesday. Hoj. Araqi stressed in the message that the Muslim combatants will avenge the blood of innocent women and children martyred in Iraqi bombardment of residential areas.

The message emphasised that the Iranian Muslim forces are going to foil the schemes of the West and East for keeping Saddam Husayn in power, thereby saving the regional nations from war-mongering regime of Baghdad as is already evidenced in Karbala 4, 5, and 6 operations.

Montazeri Cabled on Offensive

LD141753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The commanders of the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have sent a message to Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. The message stresses that the commanders of the army of monotheism, with the continued unreserved support of the selfless nation and with fresh combat forces who will soon be dispatched to the front as the Third Army of Muhammad, God's peace and benediction be upon him and his scion, will continue the victorious offensive in such a way as to take the abject enemy's breath away forcing him either to surrender or to be annihiliated.

Citizens Display 'Jubilation'

LD141552 Tehran IRNA in English 1549 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — A large group of cyclists rode through the streets of the capital Wednesday afternoon honking horns and flashing lights in an apparent show of jubilation over the Iranian victories at the war fronts.

In the victory ceremony the cyclists thanked the Iranian combatants for their brave attacks on the Iraqi enemy during Karbala-5 and 6 operations in southern and western fronts. Pedestrians and motorists also joined the festive move with chants of revolutionary slogans.

Perez de Cuellar Notified of Iraqi Attacks

LD141909 Tehran IRNA in English 1851 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati called on the United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Wednesady to take immediate and deterrent measures to halt the Iraqi barbaric attacks on the Iranian cities.

In his letter to De Cuellar, Velayati said that the indifference of the UN against such beastly attacks is unjustifiable and the silence of the international forums at this crucial juncture will only encourage the aggressor to jeopardize peace in the region and throughout the world.

Velayati warned that Iran has no alternative but to retaliate for the brutal acts. "Of course the Iraqi regime wil be solely responsible for the grave consequences of Iran's tit-for-tat measures," he added.

Envoy Protests to Shevardnadze Over Statement

LD150931 Tehran IRNA in English 0924 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to Moscow, Naser Hayrani-Nobari, in a two-hour meeting with the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, in Moscow Wednesday, protested against a recent statement made by the Soviet representative to the United Nations.

The Soviet foreign minister said that the interview of his country's envoy at the UN in New York had been distorted by imperialist media. Shevardnadze categorically denied what had been printed. He further told Hayrani-Nobari that he had instructed the Soviet envoy to the UN to deny the matter.

Shevardnadze told the Iranian diplomat that there has been no change in his country's neutral stance towards the war and that the Soviet Union is again after expansion and deepening of its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. For this reason, he added, the Soviet leadership last month approved of the visit of the chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Konstantin Katushev to Tehran, during which a protocol for economic cooperation was signed.

The Iranian ambassador referred to the main problem in the recent statement of the Soviet Government on the Iraqi imposed war. The problem, he added, is that the statement indicates that in order to end the war, one must look to the future not the past. However, Hayrani-Nobari added, this is unacceptable both from theoretical and practicial point of view. The future is built on the bases of lessons learned from the past and, therefore, Saddam who for more than six years has committed the worst crimes against the Muslim nation of Iran must be punished. Failure to observe this point, Hayrani-Nobari stressed, is a great crime against humanity. The heroic Muslim nation of Iran will soon topple the Iraqi ruler and will give him the due punishment.

Shevardnadze once again extended an invitation to the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to visit Moscow and suggested that the visit take place within the next month. He stressed that his government attached great importance to this visit.

UN Envoy on Kuwait as ICO Venue, Imposed War

LD150856 Tehran IRNA in English 0841 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Washington, Jan 15, IRNA — Iran's representative to the United Nations Seyyed Rajai'e-Khorassani, Wednesday stressed that Kuwait was directly collaborating with the Baghdad regime in its imposed war against Iran.

Speaking at a press conference at the UN, Rajai'e Khorassani reiterated that Kuwait was insecure to host the forthcoming summit conference of the Islamic Conference Organisation. He said that the ICO summit should study important international issues such as illegitimate existence of the Zionist regime, compromising attitude of a number of Arab states towards the Zionists, illegal occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviets, and Iraqi aggression against Iran.

Stressing that the ICO summit conference provided the sole opportunity for Muslim countries to discuss vital international issues, Rajai'e Khorassani said that success of such a meeting depended on its host. He added that the host country, especially in the present crucial condition in the Islamic world, should act as a means of unity and, therefore, a country like Kuwait whose actions are contrary to the ICO Charter cannot be a suitable venue.

The Iranian envoy said that Kuwait by providing Iraq with material aid and, moreover, putting its airspace at the disposal of Iraqi planes to continue its attacks against areas in Iran, oil installations, and even neutral shipping lines in the Persian Gulf, has been collaborating with Iraq. Documents on Kuwait's military collaboration with Iraq are available in the UN Security Council, he added.

On security of Kuwait, Rajai'e Khorassani said that Kuwait is only 160 kilometres far from the battle fronts and, therefore, is no safer than Baghdad. He stressed that Iran will not take part in the Kuwaiti summit conference. But, he added, if the conference is held in a suitable place Iran would attend it at the highest level.

Referring to the issue of the Iraqi imposed war and allegations on U.S. arms deal with Iran, Rajai'e Khorassani categorically denied the allegations as well as those of the U.S. providing Iran with information. He stressed that Iran had purchased required equipment from black market middlemen.

Iraqi 'Defector' on Kuwaiti Assistance to Iraq

LD141300 Tehran IRNA in English 1244 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — Despite Kuwait's heavy investment in the military aggression of Iraq on Iran, the Baghdad regime has been extensively involved in terrorist explosions, assassinations, and plots to overthrow the Kuwaiti regime, said former special secretary of Saddam, Khalideh 'Abd al-Qahhar in a televised interview here Tuesday night. She said that Kuwait has assisted Iraq during the past six years of its aggression with financial aid and rams, and has allowed it the use of Bubiyan Island as well as its ports.

Al-Qahhar emphasized that Kuwaiti rulers are bullied and terrorized into supporting Saddam. 'Abd al-Qahhar is a defector in the Islamic Republic and formerly worked in Saddam's palace.

Accused Iraqi 'Spy' Reportedly Executed

LD150636 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Sanandaj, Kordestan Prov., Jan 15, IRNA — The death sentence was carried out on a spy convicted of espionage by the Islamic Revolution's tribunal of Kordestan, Wednesday [14 January].

The spy, identified as Mohammad-Saleh Ali-Panaah [name as received] was executed on charges of collaborating with and espionage for Iraq, carrying boxes containing bombs from Iraq and cooperation with counterrevolutionary grouplets. He was

also found guilty of planting a bomb at Tehran's Friday prayers at Tehran University campus, which martyred and wounded some worshippers.

Velayati Leaves on Visit to Yugoslavia

NC140621 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The Central News Unit has reported that Foreign Minister Velayati has left Tehran leading a political delegation on a visit to Yugoslavia. The visit will involve discussion on ways of expanding bilateral relations and coordination on the Nonaligned Movement.

Prior to his departure, Mr Velayati talked with our correspondent on the objectives of his trip, saying: Our visit comes in response to an invitation extended by the SFRY foreign minister during his visit to Tehran. Our objectives are to broaden our bilateral ties and to discuss various international issues, particularly the Nonaligned Movement.

Referring to the upcoming nonaligned session to be held in Cyprus, the foreign minister said: It is essential that we exchange views at least annually on the Third World and the problems of the nonaligned states inasmuch as the nonaligned foreign ministers meeting will be held in Europe. Yugoslavia is an important European member of the Nonaligned Movement, and both Yugoslavia and Iran play major roles in the movement.

3d Mohammad Convoy Leaves For War Fronts

LD151226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Summary] This morning, the third convoy of Mohammad, may God's salutations and benedictions be upon him and his scion, comprising 18 combat battalions left Tehran for the battlefront. Also this morning, combat battalions left other cities and towns for the front. These included: 2 battalions from the Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari Province, 7 specialist battalions from the eastern Azarbayjan Province, and 24 fresh combat-specialist battalions from Sari, Gorgan, Kerman, Kazerun, and Ilam.

IRNA Rounds Up Karbala-5, -6 Operations

LD141902 Tehran IRNA in English 1837 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — The crumbling edifice of the Ba'thist regime received yet another deadly blow when the heroic combatants of Islam opened a new front in the western sector, Tuesday night, liberating over 100 sq. kms and 14 strategic heights around Sumar, the point nearest to the Iraqi capital Baghdad from the Iranian border (less than 100 kms).

According to the last minute reports from the western frontlines, 6 enemy counterattacks were beaten back and the Islamic forces are in firm control of the (Kanga Kush) River and its bridges several kms inside Iraqi soil. The enemy casualty toll stands of 1,500, with scores of tanks and personnel carriers ablaze.

The 14 liberated heights north of Sumar Nos 305, 325, 245, 285, 267, 306, 294, 265, 252, 277, 264, 249, 241, and 289, were under Iraqi occupation since Saddam's ill-fated invasion of the Islamic Republic on September 22, 1980.

Meanwhile, enemy casualty toll further south in the ongoing Karbala-5 operations now in its 6th day mounted to over 21,000 amid fierce battles which saw Iraqi forces in complete disarray.

The desperate Ba'thists pressed new units hastily into service which, due to their unfamiliarity of the local conditions, have been trapped in the thick palm groves and swamps west of Shalamcheh and are being systematically annihilated by the Muslim combatants according to last reports, Wednesday.

The 9 km long 'Fish Lake' and its surroundings have been cleared of pockets of enemy troops and the Islamic forces are pressing towards Basra several kms west of the Fish Lake.

Forty enemy planes have so far been reduced to junk by the ever-vigilant fire of the Muslim combatants and scores of tanks and personnel carriers are burning on the battlefield after today's fresh successes.

The Air Force again provided excellent tactical support to the Ground Forces by carrying out sorties Wednesday and scattering enemy forces.

The following brigades suffered extensive damage Wednesday:

Battalions 1, 2, 5 of the Presidential Guards, 70 pc;
Battalion 16 of the Presidential Guards, 40 pc;
Commando Brigade 11 of the Special Forces, 80 pc;
Battalion 19 of Presidential Guards, 80 pc;
Brigade 76, 90 pc;
Brigade 706 of Division 21, 70 to 90 pc;
Brigade 702 of Division 19;
Brigade 48 of Division 11.

Meanwhile, the IRGC launched yet another missile on the Iraqi capital, the 3d in 4 days at 12:53 local time (09:23 GMT), which zeroed in on the Prime Ministry building in the heart of Baghdad. The missile attack was in retaliation to fresh crimes of the Iraqi regime on Iran's residential areas.

3 Iraqi Corps 'Disarrayed'

LD141859 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Shalamcheh, Jan 14, IRNA — Iraqi Third, Fourth, and Seventh Corps east of Mossan, east of Basra, and West of Arvand River were disarrayed in the course of Karbala-5 operations, an Iranian commander said.

A military commander told IRNA that more than 20,000 of the best personnel of the Third Corps are now out of action and the remaining troops of the corps are being totally smashed. Many reinforcement brigades of the Fourth and the Seventh Iraqi Corps sent to reinforce the Third Corps have been smashed in the clashes over Tuesday and Wednesday, added the commander. The commander further said that an armoured column

of Iraq's Seventh Corps comprising an armoured brigade was demolished in an operational axes on its way to help the Third Corps.

Meanwhile, a brigade of Iraq's Armoured and Mechanized Seventh Corps was sent in as reinforcement to bail out the Third Corps, but it too was smashed by heavy fire of the Muslim combatants. The rest of the Iraqi brigade was bombed by Iranian jet fighters demolishing it before it could reach the operational region.

Bloody clashes are raging on among Iraqi officers, NCO's, and soldiers of the Third Corps. No exact report is yet available for the reasons of the clashes, but a group of Iraqi troops probably have insurrected because of the extreme pressure on them by their commanders.

Communique No 11 Issued

LD141840 Tehran IRNA in English 1826 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 14, IRNA — Some 2,500 more Iraqi soldiers have been killed or wounded in the Karbala-5 operational theater since Tuesday night bringing to 21,000 the Iraqi casualty toll since the start of the operations early Friday, Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters said.

The headquarters in its 11th communique said that another four Iraqi jet fighters were shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the theater Wednesday bringing to 40 the number of Iraqi warplanes downed since the beginning of the Karbala-5 operations.

Iran's Muslim forces stormed Iraqi positions in western Shalamcheh region Tuesday night inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them, it said.

Wreckage of Iraqi tanks, armoured personnel carriers. and other military hardware is scattered here and there on the western bank of the Fish Lake turning the area into a junkyard of enemy military equipment, Khatem ol-Anbiya' said.

The communique said that the 1st and 2nd Divisions, the 2nd Armoured Brigade, and the 5th Brigade of Iraq's Presidential Guards, and the Third Special Forces Brigade sustained considerable casualties and losses in the latest Iranian assault.

The commander and deputy of Iraq's 11th Commando Brigade were seriously wounded and all personnel of a forefront battalion of this brigade were either killed, wounded, or captured, the headquarters said. 80 percent of the brigade was demolished in the surprise Iranian assault, it added.

The Khatem ol-Anbiya' communique said that the remaining personnel of the 11th Commando Brigade beat a hasty retreat.

The Muslim forces also raided the 16th Brigade of the Presidential Guards on the western bank of the Fish Lake inflicting 40 percent damage on it, the communique concluded.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' is the joint military headquarters of Iran's Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

'Military Source' on Operations

LD141746 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 14, IRNA — An informed military source at Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq. said here Wednesday that the coincidence of Iran's operations 'Karbala-5' and 'Karbala-6' implies a message, that is "Saddam understands only the language of force."

Speaking to IRNA here, the military source added that when the Baghdad regime was hypocritically and desperately crying out for peace, its armymen were still occupying parts of Iran's Islamic lands. Nonetheless, he said, the heroic 'Karbala-6 operation' was launched by Iran's Islamic combatants Tuesday night in the name of Allah and with the objective of liberating strategic regions and heights still under the occupation of the Ba'thist aggressors.

In Karbala-6 operations, according to the military official, the victorious forces of Iran courageously broke through enemy defences and fortifications and liberated 100 sq. kms of Iranian territory, including strategic heights which he said were still "under the boots of the Ba'thist aggressors" since the outbreak of the imposed war in 1980.

The Islamic combatants of Iran conducted a diversionary operation in an axis down the Iraqi occupied areas and by disturbing the enemy's military array and destroying 'Abu 'Ubaydah' outpost and positions in its vicinity, paved the ground for the victorious Karbala-6 operations. "Our combatants are now in full control of the liberated areas and are consolidating their positions."

Karbala-6 operation was launched under conditions that operation Karbala-5 conducted in the southern fronts with different objectives and to retaliate Iraqi war crimes, was successfully continuing and its achievements brought glad tidings to the Muslim nation of Iran.

The military source further said that those who questioned Iran's extra-territorial operations were either unaware of the "criminal, aggressive, and opportunist" nature of the Baghdad regime or were among the "reactionary and oppressive supporters of this corrupt regime" who regarded any Iranian victory [as] "a thorn in their eye."

The coincidence of these two operations, he said, is not only indicative of the Islamic Army's strength in inflicting "fatal blows" on the enemy in any front, but also reveals the aggressive nature of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime to the whole world. "It at the same time exposes Saddam's opportunism in offering peace plans, otherwise the (now liberated) areas would not have remained under the boots of the Iraqi troops before Iran's Muslim forces could retake them in the course of Karbala-6 operations," he pointed out.

The military source concluded by saying that Saddam's "peace cries" at this stage of the imposed war showed his weakness rather than his commitment to peace. "If Saddam is given a chance, he would utilize past experiences and launch another aggression -- this time not necessarily against the Islamic Republic but against all its neighboring countries."

Iraqis Raid 'Holy City of Qom'
LD141803 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Qom, Central Province, Jan 14, IRNA — Twenty five civilians were martyred and 100 others wounded as residential areas in this holy city were bombed by Iraqi warplanes Wednesday afternoon.

It was the first time the holy city of Qom was bombarded by Iraqi jet fighters since Baghdad started the war in 1980. The Iraqi air raid on the city coincided with the martyrdom anniversary of Fatimah al-Zahra (AS), the daughter of Prophet Mohammad (SAW).

A spokesman for the War Information Hq, said here Wednesday that the latest Iraqi criminal air raid on the holy city of Qom was in defiance of all international and human laws. He said that Iraq by massacring innocent people here once more proved that it did not even respect the sanctity of holy cities.

The WIH spokesman vowed that Iran's Muslim combatants will severely respond to the recent barbaric Iraqi air raids on the Iranian cities of Borujerd, Khorramabad, Bakhtaran, Esfahan, Ilam, Arak, Susangerd, Dezful, Eslamabad-e Gharb, Ramhormoz, Nahavand, and Qom on the battlefields.

Iraqi Front Line 'Pounded'
LD150739 Tehran IRNA in English 0730 GMG 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-6 Operational Region, Jan 15, IRNA — In a series of missions Thursday morning, pilots of Havanirouz (Army aviation) pounded front line positions of the Iraqi forces here.

In these missions, started early Thursday morning, Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and damage. All the pilots returned to base safely.

Forces Deal Blows; Surround Island
LD150750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0736 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention. A few moments ago we received a report that the combatants of Islam dealt fatal blows to the enemy in the operation Karbala-5 theater, last night. Here is the report:

The combatants of Islam, in continuation of operation Karbala-5, surrounded the Bawarin Island in the Shalamcheh sector and dealt heavy blows to the Saddamites. Clashes are still continuing around the island. With God's help, victory is nigh.

Iraqi Brigades Suffer 'Casualties'
LD150806 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 15, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran besieged Bawarin Island in Shalamcheh operational region early Thursday, inflicting heavy losses on the Iraqi forces.

In continuation of the ongoing victorious Karbala-5 operation, Infantry Brigades 47 and 23 and Brigade 101 which were stationed in the island, sustained heavy casualties and damage.

Muslim forces of Iran also attacked Brigades 703 and 94, killing and injuring its personnel and capturing a number of them.

5 Iraqi Counterattacks 'Crushed'
LD150812 Tehran IRNA in English 0759 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-6 Operational Region, Jan 15, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran crushed five heavy Iraqi counterattacks in operational region north of Sumar, Wednesday night.

Commanders of Iraq's Second Corps through mobilizing personnel and armoured equipment, launched the counterattacks which were crushed by Muslim forces one after another.

The Iraqi forces, sustaining heavy casualties, were forced to retreat to their previous positions. At least 1000 Iraqis were killed or wounded and large amount of their ammunition was destroyed.

Muslim combatants are now stabilizing their positions in the areas liberated Wednesday and are prepared to encounter any Iraqi movement in the region.

Iraqi Artillery Battalion 'Smashed'
LD150901 Tehran IRNA in English 0858 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 15, IRNA — One Iraqi artillery battalion west of the Fish Lake in Shalamcheh region was totally smashed by the artillery fire of the Muslim forces of Iran Wednesday night. Meanwhile, the Muslim combatants in their thrust into enemy positions Wednesday night and Thursday morning destroyed tens of Iraqi tanks and seized 20 tanks and personnel carriers intact. The seized munitions were immediately transferred behind the war fronts to be used by the Iranian forces against the Iraqi enemy.

Iraqis 'in Chaos;' Brigade Smashed
LD150911 Tehran IRNA in English 0858 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 15, IRNA — Iraqi Brigade 426 which attempted a counterattack against the Muslim forces of Iran in the Karbala-5 operational theater Wednesday night, was smashed in a lightning Iranian attack. The personnel of the brigade fled the region after sustaining heavy casualties.

The Iraqi regime, morally devastated by the continuous attacks of the Muslim forces of Iran during the ongoing victorious Karbala-5 operation launched in Shalamcheh region last Friday, has mobilised various armoured units and dispatched them to the region. However, the units due to their unfamiliarity with the region are panicked. Therefore, they have sustained heavy casualties and damages. In a state of chaos, the Iraqi forces mistakenly have become engaged in fighting amongst themselves.

Heavy fighting is reported continuing in the region.

'Clash' With Iraqi Brigades Viewed

LD141719 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1618 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners please pay attention. According to reports received from Karbala-5 offensive zone, during a heavy clash with the Zionist enemy the fighters of Islam succeeded in destroying 70 percent of Brigade 48 of the 11th Iraqi Army Division and 50 percent of Brigade 706 of the 21st Iraqi Division. The battlefronts are littered with burnt out Iraqi tanks and destroyed military equipment. The clashes are continuing. With God's assistance victory is nigh.

30 Killed in Iraqi Missile Attacks

LD150851 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Jan 15, IRNA — Thirty civilians were martyred and 120 others wounded as of Thursday morning as a result of two surface-to-surface Iraqi missiles which hit residential areas in Masjed-e-Soleyman in this southern province, at 19:40 GMT Wednesday. Relief workers are searching for other bodies under the rubble.

Some 50 houses were totally destroyed and 150 other houses and shops damaged in the Iraqi missile attack. 30 vehicles were also damaged.

Residential areas in Dezful were bombed and hit by Iraqi surface-to-surface missiles between 22:45-50 hours local time (19:15-20 GMT) Wednesday as a result of which 10 civilians were wounded and some houses destroyed.

IRGC Missile Hits Iraqi III Corps

LD150932 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Theater, Jan 15, IRNA — A surface-to-surface Iranian missile hit a tactical headquarters and troop concentration sites of Iraq's Third Corps in this war theater at 07:12 hours local time (03:42 GMT) Thursday.

Scores of ranking officers and other Iraqi military personnel were killed or wounded in the Iranian missile attack fired by the missile unit of the Air Force of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC). Early reports said that the Staff Colonel Mohsen Ahmad is among the wounded.

Jet Fighters Bomb Iraqi Positions

LD151014 Tehran IRNA in English 1011 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed positions and troop concentration sites of Iraqi forces in the Karbala-5 operational theater twice Thursday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them, said a Joint Staff communique here.

The communique said that the fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which occurred at 07:10 and 07:17 hours local time (03:40 and 03:47 GMT).

2 Iraqi Counterattacks Repulsed

LD151025 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-6 Operational Region, Jan 15, IRNA — Fiercest fighting was reportedly raging Thursday morning in the operational theater of the Karbala-6 operations, launched in western fronts Tuesday night. The Muslim forces of Iran repelled two Iraqi counterattacks Thursday morning, killing or wounding hundreds of Iraqi forces.

The enemy was taken by surprise in the Iranian operation in which 16 strategically important heights north of Sumar have so far been liberated. It called in units of its Second Corps which launched two futile counterattacks.

Meanwhile, the Iranian engineering units are reportedly clearing the area and are building fortifications for the Muslim forces of Iran. One hundred sq. kms liberated areas in west overlooking the (Kanga Kush) River, were under the Iraqi occupation since the start of the war.

Communique No 12 Issued

LD151126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Communique No 12 of the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of joint operations by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is neither strength nor might except in Allah, the High, the Almighty. [Koran quotation]

O heroic Muslim nation! O self-sacrificing Islamic nation! Continuing their victories on the southern and western fronts, Islam's intrepid combatants last night succeeded in delivering heavy blows at, and inflicting massive casualties on the Zionist, Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq.

Our mighty forces in the operational area west of Shalamcheh last night heavily assaulted the 703d and 94th Brigades and either killed or wounded large numbers of their troops, destroyed dozens of armoured personnel carriers and tanks, and captured intact another 20 which were immediately put to good use against the enemy.

Also an enemy artillery battalion, deployed west of Buhayrah al-Asmak, was totally destroyed thanks to a brave assault by the combatants of the monotheistic corps and the use of massive fire.

During last night's operations, the Commando Brigade of the 7th Army Corps dispatched to this region and the 19th Brigade of the 7th Division were simultaneously subjected to an assault by Islam's forces and suffered heavy casualties. Also Iraq's 426th Brigade, which entered the operational area to carry out a counterattack, before being able to do anything was subjected to a lightning assault by Islamic combatants and after suffering heavy losses and casualties retreated from the operational area. Similarly, the 506th Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, which entered the operational area last night, in less than 10 hours was on the verge of total destruction thanks to continuous blows by Islam's forces. During last night's operations more than 1,500 enemy troops were either killed or wounded and another lot were also captured by Islam's forces which are being evacuated behind the front.

This morning, in the Karbala 6 operational sector, too, the remnants of the 108th and 606th Brigades of the Iraqi Army which embarked on a counterattack in the Sumar operational sector were faced with powerful resistance and, while repulsing two of their counterattacks, heavy losses and casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi forces.

If you succor God, he will verily succor you and make firm your steps! [Koran quotation]

[Signed] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters

3 Iraqi Counterattacks 'Beaten Back'

LD141624 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Sumar Operational Region, Jan 14, IRNA — The fourth Iraqi counterattack was beaten back by Iranian Muslim combatants at 13:40 hours local time (10:10 GMT) here Wednesday. The enemy who had deployed units of its Second Corps was defeated sustaining hundreds of casualties.

In another development from Bakhtaran Iranian forces smashed the fifth and the sixth Iraqi counteroffensives backed by war planes and helicopter gunships in Sumar operational region Wednesday afternoon. The number of Iraqi casualties in Sumar has so far reached 1,500.

Communique No 2,716 Details Combat Operations

LD141644 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 14, IRNA — Iran's Muslim forces launched the Karbala-6 operations in Sumar region at 22:30 hours (19:00 GMT) Tuesday, crossing the Kanga Kush River and attacked Iraqi forces on three axes. All pre-determined goals were achieved and some strategic heights in the region were liberated, said a military communique here Wednesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,716 said that Iranian Muslim combatants smashed some heavy Iraqi counterattacks to retake their lost positions in the Karbala-5 operational region especially around the Fish Lake on Tuesday and Wednesday. A large number of Iraqi tanks were destroyed.

Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed positions and troop concentration sites in the Karbala-5 operational theater five times Wednesday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which occured at 05:32, 06:30, 07:42, 08:36, and 09:32 GMT Wednesday, the communique said.

The military communique added that one more Iraqi warplane was shot down in the Karbala-5 operational region at 10:30 hours (07:00 GMT) Wednesday.

On Tuesday, the communique said, four Iraqi jet fighters were shot down by Iranian surface-to-air fire in the Karbala-5 theater at 13:52, 13:55, 13:57, and 19:00 GMT.

Seven Iraqi vessels attempting to break the siege of the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway at 16:00 GMT Tuesday were shelled and forced to retreat by Iranian naval forces, it said.

Elsewhere, the communique said that exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued throughout the fronts Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Hajj-'Umran and Naft-e Shahr as a result of which some Iraqi soldiers were killed and at least 10 bunkers of theirs destroyed.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces maintained the fire-power superiority over Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts Tuesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them and disrupting their engineering operations, the communique concluded.